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Short of a Watch.

Mr. Jacob Short, on his way home from a lecture, in which he had been much interested, fell in with a well dressed gentleman who addressed a casual inquiry to him.—From this inquiry proceeded an animated conversation, in which Mr. Short became so much interested that he parted from his new acquaintance with much regret.

A moment afterwards, being desirous of learning the time, he felt for his watch. To his consternation he found it was gone. He at once bethought himself of the common practice of adroit pickpockets to put on the guise of gentlemen, in order to facilitate their operations. Of course his suspicion instantly rested upon his late acquaintance. Luckily he was in sight.

He ran after him with a hasty step, and succeeded in overtaking him.

"Surrender that watch!" said he, in a determined tone, "or the consequences be upon your head."

The gentleman, or pickpocket, turned pale, and looked for a moment as if he were inclined to resistance, but the resolute tone and bearing of Mr. Short intimidated him, and he yielded to the requisition.

Mr. Short went home congratulating himself on the courage he had displayed on the occasion.

He related the adventure to his wife, who, instead of praising him, as he anticipated she would, exclaimed:

"Why, Jacob, what have you done?—Your watch is lying on the table, where you left it before going to the lecture. That I should live to see my dear husband a pick-pocket!"

Jacob sat down in trepidation. It was all true. He had actually committed a highway robbery, when, as he imagined, he was only recovering his stolen property.

He slept but little that night. Visions of handcuffs and prison bars floated before his troubled mind, and he arose from a sleepless bed the next morning to read the following announcement in the morning papers:

"OUTRAGE.—We learn that the Rev. Mr. C., returning from a lecture, last evening, was violently assaulted by a stranger and the threatened with instant death unless he delivered up his watch. He was accordingly obliged to do so. The person who committed this outrage is represented as short and stout, with a ferocious expression of countenance."

This was not calculated to calm the excited nerves of Mr. Short. He hardly knew how to extricate himself from his embarrassing position. He at length bethought himself to send his wife with the watch to the Rev. Mr. C., with a plain statement of the mistake which had occurred, and with a request that he would cause the matter to be dropped immediately.

The negotiation proved successful, and Short was relieved from his terror. It need not be said that Mr. Short has not attempted highway robbery since this memorable occasion, having come to the deliberate conclusion that "the way of the transgressor is hard."

Two watch seals, formerly belonging to General Washington, were lately plowed up almost at the same time—the one, a gold seal, was lost by his nephew, in Virginia, about seventeen years ago; and the other, a silver one, was lost by himself, at the scene of Braddock's defeat. He was wont to wear them both together, until he lost the silver one. Both bear his initials.

OUT OF DEBT.—The State of Connecticut is out of debt, and has money loaned out at interest. The school fund is valued at \$2,076,000 and other productive property of the State is estimated at \$400,000, the greater part of which is invested in bank stocks.

The canal commissioners of New York have fixed upon the fifth of December as the day upon which to close the canals for the season.

How Cupid Became Blind.

While in the garden of the skies,
Folly and Love, as children do,
Played, ere the god had lost his eyes,
A quarrel rose betwixt the two.
Love said the gods should do him right,
But Folly vowed to do it then,
And struck him o'er the orbs of sight,
So hard, he never saw again.

His lovely mother's grief was deep,
She called for vengeance on the deed—
A beauty does not vainly weep,
Nor coldly does a mother plead.
A shade came o'er the eternal bliss,
That fills the dwellers of the skies;
Even iron-hearted Nemesis
And Rhadamanthus wiped their eyes.

"Behold," said she, "this lovely boy,"
While freshly streamed her graceful tears,
"Immortal, yet shut out from joy
And sunshine all his future years.
The child can never take, you see,
A single step without a staff:
The hardest punishment would be
Too lenient for the crime, by half."

All owned that Love had suffered wrong,
And well should be avenged, they said;
Then weighed the public interest long,
And long the parties' interests weighed,
And thus decreed the court above:—
"Since Love is blind from Folly's blow,
Let Folly be the guide of Love,
Where'er the boy may choose to go!"

United States senator Jones, of Iowa, had a fight in Dubuque last week, with Mr. Peter A. Lorrimer. Jones got severely pumelled for calling Lorrimer a d—d liar.

Mrs. Ann Royal, of Washington city, died on Sunday morning last at an extreme old age. Mrs. R. has been, in her day, a remarkable woman, dealing in bitter sarcasm, and belonged to the Trollope school of tourists. She also wrote some novels of scant popularity.

VERMONT—A CLEAN SWEEP!—By the latest news from free Vermont, we learn that Royce's majority for Governor will exceed ten thousand! The N. Y. Tribune, on the authority of Senator Foote, says it is understood that the Slave Democracy have not carried a county or a senator in the State—not a member of Congress or a State officer. That Douglas's native county returns 28 Republicans to 2 Slave Democrats—that out of 230 members elected, the Slave Democracy will not have 30! This is the way freemen respond to the Slave Power. If any demagogue is anxious to try again to sell the free North to the Nullifiers, let him be warned by the fate of Douglas and Pierce. Treason to party may be overlooked, but treason to Liberty cannot be forgiven by Republicans.—[O. S. Jour.]

UTAH.—It is stated by the Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Courier that the official term of Governor Brigham Young, of Utah territory, expired on Friday, the 29th of September. His successor has not been agreed upon, and I learn that the appointment of one has been found a matter of considerable difficulty. Young will not be re-appointed, but it is well known that no man not a Mormon, could govern that lawless and impious community, without the material aid of one or two well appointed regiments. The secretary of the territory, A. W. Babbitt, formerly delegate in congress, will direct affairs until the further action of the president. The political insubordination of these people is as remarkable as their moral and religious irregularities. Mr. Young and his associates have not thought fit to forward copies of their territorial laws, or the accounts of the expenditures of the public appropriations, for the past two years.—[O. S. Jour.]

POTATOES.—The Milwaukee Wisconsin, says the potato crop of that state is large and excellent. The oldest inhabitant says he has never before eaten such potatoes as have been in the market this fall. Take care of them, Mr. Editor of the Wisconsin, and in due time send them along this way.

EXPEDITION AGAINST SEVASTOPOL.—Comparison is often the most striking mode of conveying an impression; and it is interesting to examine how the present expedition to Sevastopol compares with other great enterprises of the kind which have figured in history. Its superior magnitude to them all, will thus be made most palpable.

The expedition to Sevastopol, according to the last accounts, numbers six hundred vessels, and ninety thousand men. The "Invincible Armada," despatched under Phillip II., of Spain, for the conquest of England, and so famous in warlike annals, numbered only one hundred and thirty-seven ships of war, twenty thousand soldiers and eleven thousand sailors. The expedition of Charles V. to Tunis consisted of five hundred Genoese and Spanish vessels and thirty thousand men; that of Gustavus Adolphus to Germany of only fifteen or eighteen thousand; that of Jussuf against Candia thirty thousand men; that of Kionperti against the same strong hold fifty thousand; that of Charles XII. upon Denmark twenty thousand; that of Peter the Great upon the Caspian Sea twenty thousand men with two hundred and seventy ships; the attempted descent of Hoche against Ireland, twenty-five thousand men; that of Bonaparte upon Egypt, twenty-three thousand men, with thirteen ships, seventeen frigates, and four hundred transports; the Anglo-Russian expedition against Holland, forty thousand men; that of Abercrombie upon Egypt twenty thousand men; that of Lord Cathcart upon Copenhagen twenty-five thousand men; that of Wellington upon Portugal fifteen thousand, and upon Spain thirty thousand; that of the English upon Antwerp seventy thousand men, forty thousand of which were land troops, and thirty thousand sailors; that of the English upon Washington about eight thousand, and upon New Orleans fifteen thousand; that of the French upon Algiers, thirty thousand.

Thus we see that all these expeditions, comprising the most important which have taken place since the invention of gunpowder, fall considerably short of the present.—[N. Y. Courier.]

DREDGING THE FLATS.—Despairing of any aid from a Democratic administration, the merchants in the lake cities are talking of assuming the work of dredging the St. Clair Flats. Mr. Holt, of the firm of Holt, Palmer & Co., of Buffalo, started for Cleveland Monday evening, the Buffalo Democracy says, to get a dredge and proceed to the flats immediately. The distance to be dredged is about 250 yards, and it will probably take a week to deepen the channel so that any vessel on the lakes can pass without detention, and the whole expense will probably not exceed \$4,000—about as much as it costs every week to lighten over the vessels that get aground there. We hope the enterprise will succeed and that the Detroit shippers will pay their full share of the cost of the work that benefits all.—[Detroit Tribune.]

A new fraud attributed to Robert Schuyler, has just been announced. We understand, says the Journal of Commerce, that previous to Schuyler's failure he not only sold to the Harlem Railroad Company an invoice of iron, which a London house claims as their property, but also obtained loans from two responsible firms here, each upon one invoice, making the latter thus do double duty. The amount thus involved is about \$175,000, and there will be a nice dispute as to which of the lenders is entitled to the security.

The Louisville Journal has the following item: "Among the curiosities on Main-st. yesterday, were 18 negro men handcuffed in pairs, in charge of two white men. A lot of women and children were following in their wake."

KISSANE AND FINDLAY.—These two men, prominently connected with the famous Martha Washington case, are either the most unfortunate of individuals, or the half of their exploits have not been told. Sidney C. Burton, of this city, has borne all manner of odium from the friends of the defendants in the Martha Washington case, on account of the persecution—as they termed his efforts—of those men. Justice will yet be done Burton, and the time will come when all will admit that the country owes him a debt that money cannot repay.

Kissane and Findlay are now in New York under arrest for a gigantic forgery, and the Cincinnati Times gives the suspicious facts as connected with these men. They returned to Cincinnati a day or two after the money was obtained upon the forged checks, representing that they had just come from Chicago, when the fact was they had come from New York. The teller of the Central Bank came on to Cincinnati, but Findlay had left. The teller, however, gave a perfect description of Findlay as the one who presented the check. The New York officers also, unknown to Kissane, had an inspection of that man, and he was found to answer the description of the person supposed to be connected with Findlay. The Times says the evidence is full and complete although at present kept a secret. There is great curiosity excited in Cincinnati to know whether "Sid. Burton has had a finger in this matter." We had hold of his fingers on Saturday, and they were a little soft from an attack of the cholera at the East, but we come to the conclusion that he knows just what he is about, and time and patience will unravel the tangled web.

Since writing the above we have the astonishing news that Kissane, on Saturday, while on his way to New York, in charge of John Reed, by virtue of a requisition from the Governor of that State, escaped at Hornellsville, and had not been heard of since.—[Cleveland Herald.]

On Sunday, recently, during the high mass at twelve, in the village of Glentarriff, Ireland, three ladies of the Protestant faith were obliged to take shelter from a heavy shower. The officiating priest knowing who they were, and wishing to appear respectful to them, stooped down to his attendant who was on his knees, and whispered to him, "three chairs for the Protestant ladies." The clerk, who was rather an ignorant man, stood up and shouted out to the congregation, "three cheers for the Protestant ladies!" which the congregation immediately took up, and gave three hearty cheers, while the clergyman stood dumb-founded.

Accounts from New Orleans continue to be of the most appalling nature. One paper says potatoes are selling at four for a dime. The Picayune says the man who would bring a few thousand barrels there, just now, would make a fortune. Still another journal says, there never was, perhaps, such a hard time to get anything to eat in New Orleans as at present. There is literally nothing in the markets fit to be eaten. The meats are poor and scarce. Eggs are out of the question, and command from four to six bits a dozen! Beef, mutton and poultry are of the poorest possible kind.

THIRTY THOUSAND ACRES OF LAND SOLD!—Uncle Sam is the largest landholder in the world. He has held several thousand acres for some years in the region of country southeast of us, and having determined to get rid of it, he offered it for sale at a mere nominal price, and it has gone off like "hot corn." In the short space of two weeks he has sold thirty thousand acres! And that for the small sum of \$3,750! That will do for a Pierce speculation.—[Scioto Gazette.]